

From: BNA Highlights [bhighlig@bna.com]
Sent: 6/9/2016 1:14:11 AM
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Subject: Jun. 9 -- BNA, Inc. Daily Environment Report

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Thursday, June 9, 2016 • Number 111

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NEWS

Agriculture

Brazil Chicken Industry Hurt by GMO Corn Import Limits
For Brazil's enormous chicken industry, facing a surprise domestic shortage of corn with which to feed its birds, the solution seemed obvious: import the grain from the U.S., where stockpiles have never been bigger....

Air Pollution

Eight-Year Ozone Delay Passed by House
Implementation of the 2015 ozone standards would be delayed by eight years under legislation passed June 8 by the House....

Air Pollution

EPA to Remove Affirmative Defense Permitting Language
The Environmental Protection Agency would remove language from the permitting program for industrial facilities that allows them to claim an affirmative defense from civil penalties due to violations of emissions standards caused by "emergencies"...

Air Pollution

States to Ask EPA for Ozone Standards Assistance
A coalition of 12 states and the District of Columbia plan to ask the Environmental Protection Agency for more help in meeting federal standards on ground-level ozone....

Biotechnology

EU Parliament Critical on GMOs, Endocrine Disruptors
European Parliament lawmakers June 8 criticized the European Union's executive, the European Commission, in three

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environment-related resolutions adopted at a plenary sitting in Strasbourg, France....

Biotechnology

Gene Drives Not Ready for Prime Time, Experts Say

"Gene drives" should not be released into the environment without much more public engagement and very carefully conducted lab testing, according to a panel of experts assembled by the National Academies of Science....

Chemicals

Chile Opens New Front in Battle with Chemicals Giant SQM

Soc. Quimica & Minera de Chile SA, the world's most profitable major chemicals company, risks fines and losing permits after Chilean authorities said it breached environmental rules....

Chemicals

TSCA Reform Faces Uncertain Funding Future

Lawmakers on Capitol Hill continue to celebrate passage of the bipartisan bill to overhaul the nation's chemical law, but questions loom over funding for the Environmental Protection Agency's new obligations under the statute,...

Chemicals

With Chemical Safety Law, Congress Hands EPA Herculean Task

Hormone-disrupting chemicals used to make your shower curtain or water bottle could face stiffer rules under a measure passed by Congress this week. But it will be years before regulators determine if phthalates and thousands of other chemicals...

Climate Change

Ontario Climate Action Plan Includes 'Green Bank'

Ontario's first five-year climate change action plan calls for new spending of up to C\$8.3 billion (\$6.5 billion) on energy efficiency and other initiatives aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions, fully financed from the proceeds...

Climate Regulation

Low Clean Power Plan Costs Seen During Litigation

The Environmental Protection Agency's currently stayed Clean Power Plan (RIN:2060-AR33) will have "near-zero" costs until 2025 due to prevailing market, technological and policy trends, according to a new analysis from...

Congress

Resolutions Opposing Carbon Taxes Near House Votes

The House is expected to vote as soon as June 9 on non-binding resolutions stating that a carbon tax is "not in the best interest" of the U.S. and opposing a proposed fee on each barrel of oil produced. ...

Elections

Clinton-Trump Race Reveals Contrasts on Environment

The Democratic presidential primary has made former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, the party's newly minted presumptive

nominee, more outwardly progressive on climate and environment issues, political observers representing...

Energy

Advanced Nuclear Reactor Framework Needed, Industry Says

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission needs to develop a regulatory framework specifically for advanced nuclear reactors and review applications for them efficiently, vendors that are developing the next-generation nuclear reactors told...

Energy

Global Coal Consumption Drops by Record Amount

Global coal consumption dropped the most on record last year as the U.S. and other major economies started turning away from the most polluting fossil fuel, according to BP Plc's annual review of energy trends....

Enforcement

Massachusetts Company to Pay \$300,000 for Alleged Dumping

A national demolition and disposal company and its subcontractor agreed to pay \$300,000 in penalties to resolve allegations of illegal dumping, Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey (D) announced June 7 (Massachusetts v. NASDI LLC,...

Hazmat Transport

Railroad's Hazmat Cleanup Claims Derailed on Appeal

Soo Line Railroad Co. is on the hook for \$7.76 million in hazardous material cleanup costs for a train wreck caused by an incapacitated commercial truck driver, the Eighth Circuit ruled June 7 (Soo Line R.R. Co. v. Werner Enters., 2016 BL 181736,...

Hazmat Transport

White House Reviewing Crude-by-Rail Rule

A Department of Transportation rule setting requirements for trains hauling oil and other flammable materials has been sent to the White House for review. ...

International Climate

India's Modi Calls for More U.S. Clean Energy Cooperation

India Prime Minister Narendra Modi, fresh on the heels of a pledge to swiftly ratify the Paris climate pact, told members of Congress June 8 that his country seeks more cooperation from the U.S. as it embarks on a mammoth effort to expand its use...

Oil & Gas

Big Oil's Footprint in Washington Shrinks with Price of Crude

Tumbling crude and natural gas prices have weakened the energy industry's influence in Washington as cutbacks in the oilfield have spread to the nation's capital....

Pipeline Safety

House Passes Pipeline Safety Bill, Sending It to Senate

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration would receive authority to issue emergency orders in the event of a spill or other accident under a five-year reauthorization bill passed by the House June 8. ...

Regulatory Policy

Canadian Court Upholds Renewable Diesel Fuel Rules

A Canadian court has confirmed that Syncrude Canada Ltd. must meet federal requirements for a minimum of 2 percent renewable content in diesel fuel, even if the fuel is produced for in-house use (Syncrude Canada Ltd. v. Attorney General of Canada,...

Regulatory Policy

China's Supreme Court Asks Local Judges to Consider Environment

China's top judicial body called on local courts to accept more environmental cases and to make "better decisions" to protect the country's natural resources....

Renewable Energy

India to Auction Wind Projects to Meet 60-Gigawatt Target

India will introduce competitive auctions for wind farms this year in a bid to fulfill Prime Minister Narendra Modi's goal for 60 gigawatts of capacity by 2022....

Superfund

Uranium Mill to Pay EPA Nearly \$1 Million in Settlement

Cotter Corp. N.S.L. agreed to pay the Environmental Protection Agency \$957,604 to cover the agency's past oversight costs at a former uranium mill Superfund site near Canon City, Colo....

Sustainability

BlackRock Eyes Green Bond Funds But Pimco Urges Caution

BlackRock Inc. and some of the world's other major asset managers are setting up funds focused on green bonds. The next trick is finding enough of the debt to buy....

Taxes

San Francisco Proposes Carbon Tax for Residents

San Francisco residents would pay an average \$2.07 monthly carbon tax under an initiative proposed for the November ballot to push people toward cleaner energy alternatives....

Toxic Substances

EU Targets Late June for Glyphosate Next Step

A proposal to extend the authorization of the herbicide glyphosate in the European Union will go to an "appeals committee" of EU member country representatives, which will meet June 23 or June 24, the European Commission told Bloomberg...

Vehicle Fuels

Ontario to Offer Electric Car Rebates in \$6.5 Billion Carbon Plan

Ontario will spend as much as C\$8.3 billion (\$6.5 billion) through 2020 to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions, betting big on electric vehicles with rebates of as much as C\$14,000 (\$11,027) a car and 500 charging stations to spur sales....

Water Infrastructure

EPA Highlights Water Utility Programs That Help Customers

An Environmental Protection Agency compendium offers a look at the variety of programs offered by drinking water and wastewater utilities to help customers pay their bills. ...

Water Pollution

Courts Told to Ignore Venue Ruling for Water Rule Suits

Federal district and appeals courts are again being urged by states and cattlemen's groups to ignore a recent decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit establishing itself as the venue to review the nearly half dozen challenges...

Wetlands

San Francisco Bay Approves \$12 Wetlands Parcel Tax

San Francisco Bay Area voters approved a ballot measure June 7 to begin taxing themselves \$12 per real property parcel to fund wetlands restoration projects....

BNA INSIGHTS

Why Passage of Toxic Chemical Reform Is a Really Big Deal

First, the obvious: It's the first major environmental legislation to be enacted in more than 20 years. And it's all the more remarkable that it passed, with strong bipartisan support, in a divided Congress and at a time when most environmental...

REGULATORY AGENDA

Comment Deadlines

JUNE 8 FEDERAL REGISTER

JUNE 9 FEDERAL REGISTER

Daily Environment Report

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